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The Highlander

Thursday **February 23 2017** | Issue 276

INSIDE: LIVING WELL - PAGES 10 & 11

FREE



Blaze destroys home

Algonquin Highlands firefighters were called to a fire on Halls Lake Road on Wednesday morning. One occupant was in the home at the time of the fire but escaped after the smoke alarm went off. There were no injuries. The year-round home, at 1015 Halls Lake Rd., is located off of Little Hawk Lake Road and Cadge Road. Firefighters pumped water from nearby Halls Lake as they battled the blaze on a warm and foggy morning. No one was injured but the home is a complete loss. Crews worked under the direction of fire Chief Mike Cavanagh. The investigation is ongoing.

Pictured: Firefighter Karl Mueller takes a big drink of water as he takes a break from battling a fire in Algonquin Highlands about 8 a.m. Wednesday morning.
Photo by Lisa Gervais.

Tragedy on Dark Lake

By Lisa Gervais

Cottager Robert 'Bob' Bell was "the most kind, respectful and loving person to his wife and his two girls and everyone he ever loved and met," his daughter, Gail Bell, told *The Highlander* Wednesday.

The family was trying to come to terms with Bell's death Saturday after the snowmobile he and wife Roxanne were riding went through the ice on Dark Lake near Wilberforce Saturday night.

Bancroft OPP confirmed on Tuesday that the body of Bell, 53, of Mount Albert, Ont. was recovered from the lake Monday morning by the OPP Underwater Search and Recovery Unit.

OPP said they responded to a snowmobile going through the lake about 8.25 p.m. Saturday.

"Officers attended the scene and determined that the operator and passenger entered the water on the [snowmobile] and only the female passenger was able to get out of the water to safety," a release said.

Ben Hicks told *The Highlander* that he was at a party Saturday night when he and the people he was with heard screaming.

Hicks said they knew someone was in trouble.

He could see a commotion near the road bridge on Loop Road.

Hicks said he grabbed a rope from his parked snowmobile and ran across the lake towards where he could hear the screaming and see emergency vehicles on the bridge.

He said there were other people on the ice when he arrived, trying to help a man and a woman whose snowmobile had plunged through the ice.

Hicks said another bystander had brought the woman – who he now knows was Roxanne Bell – to the edge of the water but had then fallen in himself. Hicks said he threw the woman the rope. He said he

See 'Second' on page 2

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Highlander news

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Second fatality in a year

Continued from page 1

talked to her the whole time he was pulling her up and out, telling her to keep her elbows up and to remain calm.

"I pulled her up and slid her across the ice. Thank God she had enough strength," Hicks said in an interview. Once she was safe, he and a friend stripped her soaking clothes to the base layer and walked her to a nearby motor vehicle so she could be taken to her cottage.

Hicks said the woman was worried about her husband. He said he didn't know what was happening with the man but told the woman "he's okay" as he wanted to get her up the hill from the lake, into a warm car and to a warm place.

Meanwhile, Bob Bell was still missing so Hicks returned to the lake to see if he could help others to get him out. But there was nothing that could be done. While rescuers found Bell's helmet, he had already sunk below the surface.

"Unbelievable," said Barb MacDonald of Dark Lake, who was on an ATV near the site of the accident Sunday morning. "It's just so sad, that's all I can say. It's not what



Robert (Bob) Bell. Submitted

you expect ... coming up for a Family Day long weekend."

Sandra Lorraine Nicholson wrote on *The Highlander's* Facebook page, "Bob and Roxanne were always happy and full of life. Bob will be missed by his family and the many, many friends who loved him. It is a very sad time. We have lost a wonderful man. Safe journeys Bob.

"This marks the second snowmobile fatality on the lake in a year. Last January, Thomas Rivers, 53, of Wilberforce died when the snowmobile he was riding went through the ice.

Campaign launched to raise money for ice and water rescue

By Lisa Gervais

Kris Guyton launched a GoFundMe web page on the weekend to raise money for equipment and training for the Highlands East fire department to better deal with ice and water rescues.

Guyton, who now lives in Fox Creek, Alta., used to be a Wilberforce station 4 firefighter. He told *The Highlander* in a Monday night interview that he and his family knew Bob Bell, who was killed in the snowmobile tragedy, and his wife, Roxanne, who was saved.

"They were close to my parents and we thought the world of them," Guyton said.

On his GoFundMe page, he says "this is a department with a lot of heart, soul and character that operates on minimal financial support and the use of old or non-existent equipment.

"Sometimes it takes a tragedy hitting close to the heart to make you realize you need to do something to help. I am asking for anyone who is able to join me in raising as much money in the name and memory

of Bob Bell (a great man), as possible to support the fire department in hopes to be able to some day save and prevent these terrible tragedies from happening.

Every dollar we are able to raise, small or large, will go directly into the hands of the Highlands East fire department, which will go directly into purchasing desperately-needed rescue equipment and training, focusing on ice and water rescue."

Guyton said additional equipment would not have saved Bell, since it had become a recovery by the time emergency services arrived, not a rescue mission, but Roxanne had been on the ice. He added the equipment will save lives in the future.

He said the fundraiser helped shift the focus for people left asking themselves 'what can I do?' He said a lot of the donors are Bell's friends.

"Why can't something good come out of it?" Guyton said.

The campaign had raised more than \$11,000 far exceeding its \$3,500 goal, as of Wednesday.

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Highlander news



The ServiceOntario office in Minden is located off Highway 35. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

Province keeps doors open at Minden's ServiceOntario

By Mark Arike

After a lengthy review, the provincial government has decided to keep Minden's ServiceOntario centre open.

It was one of nine centres originally slated to close, but now each location will continue to serve the public.

"ServiceOntario is committed to continually refining our services and service delivery options in order to better match customer needs," states a release from Harry Malhi of the Communications Branch.

Last May, it was announced that the Minden centre, located off Highway 35, would permanently close at the end of November 2016. The initial decision was made "after careful analysis," spokesperson Anne-Marie Flanagan told *The Highlander* at the time. It was believed these centres could close due to the proximity of other nearby centres and the availability of online services.

There was public outcry and many residents signed a petition in the hopes of reversing the decision. Local politicians also expressed their disappointment.

A month later, the government put the closures on hold and decided to re-examine the decision.

"I'm happy for all," said Minden Hills Reeve Brent Devolin.

He said a number of groups "made noise," including the public, politicians, car dealers, ATV and snowmobile users.

Local resident Richard Bradley launched an online petition when the closure was first

announced. It was signed by 766 people.

Jeff Leal, Peterborough MPP and minister of agriculture, food and rural affairs, said he was involved in the review and worked closely with Tracy MacCharles, the newly-appointed minister of government and consumer services, and her predecessor.

"I spent time going through the riding of Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock and I have friends in the Minden area, and I know how important that ServiceOntario site is," said Leal. "I wanted to make sure it was kept open."

The government reached out to community leaders and people in the riding for input, he added.

"I'm very pleased because I think they listened to us," said local MPP Laurie Scott.

Back in June, Scott called it a "ridiculous closure."

She thanked everyone who "championed to keep the Minden office open," including politicians, residents and the municipality.

Many residents, like Tim Agnew of Kinmount, are happy to hear they will be able to continue accessing its services.

"It's great to have local service from the government," said Agnew. "They've always been good here. They are very efficient."

The nearly 300 ServiceOntario offices in the province provide services such as driver's license and health card renewals, fishing and hunting licenses, and property address changes.

There is another centre in Haliburton but it is independently operated, whereas the other locations are run by the ministry.

(With files from Lisa Gervais)

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Editorial opinion

TheHighlander

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The Highlander's Mission

To tell the story of
Haliburton County each week

To be a source of information and inspiration
through stories and ideas

To report on issues, people and events
important to the community

To reflect and promote pride in the culture,
people and landscape of The Highlands

To encourage Highlanders to believe in
themselves, in our community, and in their
power to make our place in the
world better every day.

Use it or lose it

On Friday, I went to ServiceOntario in Minden.

I've lived in the county since August but hadn't gotten around to changing my address on my paperwork.

I could have done it online but decided not to, since online access is the rationale for shutting down services in our area and putting people out of work.

Even having the online option means I'm one of the lucky ones. I get Bell Internet at home. It's usually high-speed, as promised.

Some people in the county aren't so lucky. I ran into a couple at the Dysart branch of the public library last week who have to do their heavy Internet lifting there because the home dial-up just doesn't cut it. We keep hearing that improvement is on the way, but for some people on rural roads it's never coming because there's no money in it for Internet service providers.

So, the decision last week to reverse the planned closure of Service Ontario in Minden is the right decision for two reasons.

Number one – because not everybody has Internet service adequate to use

ServiceOntario online.

Number two is transportation.

Not everyone has a car and public transportation is virtually non-existent in the county. If you live in Minden it's a 50-km return trip to Haliburton and even further to Bobcaygeon, Fenelon Falls, Lindsay, Peterborough or other centres. People without cars or on fixed incomes don't have the luxury of just driving to another centre or hopping on a bus.

So, good decision. It's just too bad it took nine months from the date the closure was announced to its reversal last Thursday. That must have been an agonizing nine months for the two full-time employees who work at the centre.

Residents, businesses such as the car dealerships in town, and municipal politicians have also been on tenterhooks.

We're trying to figure out what the province was thinking.

It announced May 5, 2016 that the closure was imminent, citing "minimal impact" to customers due to online services and proximity of other centres.

There was a hue and cry locally,

including a 700-plus name petition from resident Richard Bradley.

On June 9, 2016 we reported the stay of execution – since the province needed more time to do a further review because customer service is number one, we were told.

They announced the reversal Feb. 16.

The impact on customer service and the community should have been assessed long before making an emotion-charged decision; putting that decision on hold after just one month; then taking nine months to make a final determination. It shows a lack of consideration for those who depend on these outposts: rural Ontarians.

In the end, the right decision was made. Nevertheless, the process should not have been so painful for this community and the others affected across Ontario.



By Lisa Gervais

Remembering Canada's storyteller

Talk around the restaurant table last week quickly turned from the topic of the American President to the passing of Canadian broadcaster Stuart McLean. It wasn't that Trump couldn't have filled the lunch hour gabfest, but the broadcaster's passing was actually more significant than anything coming out of Washington.

Everyone had a story about Canada's storyteller. One recalled how he was a regular on the CBC Radio Morningside program with Peter Gzowski and how he would be sent on odd quests and report back with ad lib banter that kept listeners glued to their radios. It was funny stuff. Stuart recounted his fear-filled climb up a tower crane dutifully captured on tape, although he never completed the climb to the top. There was the successful search for the trailer park which catered only to barbershop quartet singers and, of course, the cricket Stuart had purchased as a pet, and the laugh choked discussion that ensued. The insect had departed this world before arriving at the CBC studio.

McLean replaced Gzowski one summer and developed his Vinyl Café concept that would serve as the format for the rest of his radio career. There are few in Canada who are not familiar with the cast of characters he wove through his stories: Dave and Morley, the kids, Stephanie and Sam and the dog Arthur; the neighbours Jim Schofield, Burt and Mary Turlington among others; and business associates, like Kenny Wong, who peopled his bizarre and funny tales. The Christmas Turkey

story seemed to the most remembered, but everyone had others they wanted to propose as a favourite ... the trip down east to meet an old friend ... welcoming new neighbours ... the Christmas pageant gone awry ... dog sitting and so many more. One of the classics I recall with fondness is the story called The Jock Strap. It recounted how a single mother had enrolled her son in minor hockey for the first time. After having acquired all the gear, the struggle to figure out in what order the items went on. She was sure she had everything on the list including the athletic supporter, which she presumed to be herself.

Stuart's voice had an instant warmth to it that put listeners at ease. Often heard was the comment, "I felt he was speaking just to me," the ultimate compliment a broadcaster would want to hear. He also generated such loyalty that everyone around the table recalled being 'driveway listeners' ... having arrived home before McLean was done telling a story, they sat in their cars with the motors running, to hear the end ... even when they had heard the story before.

McLean's stories were always gently funny, with an underlying current of truth that made the tale honest and real. In the tributes which poured out following his death last week many recalled when McLean quoted children's writer E. B. White who described his job as "taking readers to the place where laughter meets tears. It was then that people would get close to the big hot fire that is truth." That is what endeared him so strongly to

Canadians.

McLean also provided a platform for Canadian musicians to showcase their music. The national exposure lifted many struggling musicians from obscurity and gave them a launching pad for their careers.

We will all miss his gentle style and whimsical tales. Canada is richer for his presence in our homes every week.

In one his last public appearance at the centennial celebrations of the city of Prince George, BC, he said: "And so, I would say today as we toast the last 100 years, our toast should contain certain humility. A modest acknowledgement of our stumbles and our quiet determination to try harder, to listen carefully, to be thoughtful of new ways, to be sure that we are on the right side of history."

"That is, to continue our coming together with open minds and hearts."

"And finally to ask ourselves from time to time how people will look back at us, 100 years from now. "Will they say of us we were tolerant and enlightened?"

"Will they say we did the right thing at the right time?"

"Will they find people among us who stood firm and inched things forward, who made the world a better place?"

Vintage Stuart McLean.



By Jack Brezina

Send your letters to editor@thehighlander.ca
(Word Count: 300 max)

Editorial opinion

It's never too late

Dear editor,

(Re. Your story in the Feb. 9 *Highlander* about Susan and Keith Hay donating \$10,000 to the YWCA). Just an incredible donation to the much-needed YWCA. I was one of those women in an abusive situation in Haliburton County. Please let Susan and Keith Hay know what a blessing this is.

I lived in the Haliburton area about 20 years ago. I was naive, and in an abusive relationship which I now realize was never love, nor healthy. I thought I was unable to go to the police because the partner I was with knew most of the OPP in town. I will never forget standing outside at night under the beautiful Haliburton sky in my driveway after being punched by my ex and fully aware that I was unable to do anything about it and making the slow walk back

into the house. The police wouldn't believe me (or so I thought). Friends noticed bruises, but never said anything.

I finally left, in my mid 20s. It was the best decision I ever made. I never was able to reach out during that time to any community services because there were simply none available. Life is beyond completely different now, for the positive.

Abuse is insidious. You start to believe the lies, torment and zero self-worth that is thrown at you daily. Thanks to people like Susan and Keith, I hope that donation can offer other women and children that glimmer of hope. It's never too late.

Anonymous

(Editor's note: the author has identified herself to *The Highlander* but requested anonymity.)

Wants his own 'pride' recognized

Dear Editor,

I may also have to petition Minden council in order to have my own "pride" recognized, referring to your p. 5 group of last week (photo of the week, Feb. 2).

However, the only flag I may be able to exhibit will be my French flag (in honour of beautiful presidential candidate Marine Le Pen !) when your photographer snaps my pic.

Admittedly, my "pride" will be different. My own heart only beats faster when, at the gas bar, I have neatly recoiled the air hose not infrequently left in a jangle by the previous motorist.

I own another sin of "pridefulness" which

regularly drives me with baited breath, inside and outside of Haliburton's Tim Hortons, to pick up discarded cups and other less mentionable litter.

Driving around this peaceful village of ours, I fanatically hold as a rule to slow down and (Good Gracious!) brake in a "proud" gesture of citizenship or comradeship to all pedestrians.

This kind of freelance volunteerism, I confess, serves me (in addition to my ancient age) as a feeble excuse to avoid, for example, giving blood to the bank or running for cancer around the county.

Charles Lutz
Haliburton

Send your letters to
editor@thehighlander.ca
(Word Count: 300 max)

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Things are getting icy. Photo by Alex Coop.

Floods, flies and fanciful thinking

It's spring!

I know it's spring because of the drip drip drip and the army of big fat hairy flies that have emerged from who knows where to live in my office. The darn things are visibly happy about the warming of the weather. I can tell because they buzz around like kamikaze pilots, seeming to take great glee in dive bombing my head as I sit here trying to craft another masterpiece for you folks to read.

Did you see how I got the excuse for a lacklustre column in right at the top of this missive! Blame the insects, I say, it always works.

But spring, it's here, for sure. Picture me, slippers on, singing "it's spriing, it's spriing, everything is meltiing," while

waving my arms around in a circular motion in front of me and hopping from one foot to another (I'm dancing, dad dancing probably but you get the gist) all the while being dive bombed by fat hairy flies. But I don't care because Spring is here and I believe it, even if Eric, whom I met at the grocery store thinks that we're gonna get another blast of winter yet.

Now, Eric is one of those fellows who tends to know about these things. He's got some kind of direct line to Mother Nature, you see. Eric grows stuff, all kinds of stuff, and he does it really well. Whether it's Swiss chard or watermelon, heritage garlic or ancient apple varieties, Eric can grow it because he's in touch with the earth, the sky, and the elements. And yes, in quite a hippy way. But a way

that when he says we're in for another cold spell yet you have to kind of believe him.

And I do but I'm just going to try to ignore him this once and hope he's wrong because I like this warming of the weather. Even, if it turns my front yard into a river; one which flows directly into the lake that was formerly known as my garage. While, out in my backyard, the actual river slowly rises until it bursts its banks and turns my backyard and as far as the eye can see into a water world the likes of which Kevin Costner would be proud of (well, hopefully he'd be prouder of my water world than his film of the same name).

But, hey, who cares so long as winter is done.

Then again, maybe I am getting a little premature. I mean, if spring comes two months early then surely bug season will follow swiftly, too. We'll have black flies in March and mosquitoes in April. I'll soon be ducking for cover as the big fat hairy flies who dive bomb my head don't do it for fun but instead be intent on taking a chunk out of me, too.

Hmm, the lesser of two evils ... another blast of arctic weather or hordes of hungry deer flies? Oh lovely reader, I wonder why do we subject ourselves to such evils but then I swat away another dive bomber and look out of my window and I know my view will look wonderful whatever the season.



By Will Jones

The Outsider

Highlander opinions

Eye on the street: Do you think Matt Duchene will be traded and, if so, to where?



Betty Cook

Wilberforce

I think he should be traded to the Leafs.



Brendan Coumbs

Haliburton County

I think he's going to be traded but I don't know where ... I've heard Vancouver, maybe Montreal, Ottawa.



Darol Sisson

Haliburton County

I think he's definitely on the trading block. As to where, I don't have a clue.



Marianne Greber

Haliburton County

He's going to Montreal.



Sheila Woodcroft

Minden

I hope for his sake he does ... and to Pittsburgh with Sid (Sidney Crosby).

Photos and interviews by Lisa Gervais

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Algonquin Highlands restricts access to municipal buildings

Comments directed toward municipal personnel caused the Township of Algonquin Highlands to contact police and restrict access to its municipal buildings in Stanhope during the month of January.

On Jan. 9, a member of the public entered a municipal facility in Stanhope and issued comments to a township staff member, which prompted the township to contact the OPP who then began an investigation.

"It's been unnerving and disruptive for staff and was unsettling for council," Algonquin Highlands Reeve Carol Moffatt wrote in an email Feb. 17. "That kind of behaviour from the public is absolutely unacceptable and will not be tolerated. It's disappointing that this kind of thing has found its way to the Haliburton Highlands."

Moffatt wouldn't specify who the comments were directed to specifically, or what was said, but did confirm that while the Haliburton Highlands OPP were investigating, the public had to knock or ring the doorbell to gain entry to the municipal buildings.

There was also no concern for public safety, she added. OPP media relations officer Tim Negus confirmed the incident, but wouldn't elaborate.

"Officers spoke to all involved individuals in detail and through collaboration with all involved persons were able to resolve the matter without charges," he said. (Alex Coop)

Police ask for public's help

The Ontario Fire Marshal's Office and the Haliburton Highlands OPP are investigating a structure fire that took place on Buller Road, a few kilometres west of Kinmount.

The fire was reported Monday, Feb. 13, shortly after 9 p.m. There were no occupants in the building and no injuries occurred as a result of the fire.

Police are requesting anyone with information to contact

County in brief

the Haliburton Highlands OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). (Alex Coop)

Dorset lookout tower on Xplornet's radar

Xplornet has been eyeing the Dorset Lookout Tower as a potential new telecommunications site.

Site acquisition consultant, Lorne Galbraith, pitched the idea to Algonquin Highlands (AH) during a Feb. 16 council meeting.

Galbraith advised using the tower as an operations site, suggesting equipment could be installed directly on the structure or they could build another tower on the ridge behind the historic 100 ft. high structure.

In total, Xplornet's proposal states the company would install up to four antennas on the tower, at a height of 40 metres and would also need to build a small equipment box at the base. The company would pay \$6,000 in rent annually for the use of the space, for an initial term of a decade.

Reeve Carol Moffatt voiced current difficulties in the county with the need for access to high-speed Internet and said it would be important to understand the estimated reach.

Galbraith said service would cover a 30-km radius and could also connect to other towers, on top of providing faster connection and another provider option for residents.

Councillor Brian Lynch said the improvement in service would be welcomed, but he and the reeve worried about what the tower would look like – as the tourist attraction already looks messy.

"I know it is a tourist place up there," Galbraith said. "You could put it back in the trees, hidden."

AH CAO Angie Bird recommended to council that they perform an engineering study to determine if the tower can sustain the additional weight and wind capacity.

Councillors agreed there was interest, but would like to see drawings and also a coverage map before deciding. (Jennifer Hughey)

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Highlander news



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AH ratepayers looking at 7.57 per cent increase

By Jennifer Hughey

After nearly two days of deliberations, the municipality of Algonquin Highlands (AH) has made resolutions on its 2017 revenues and expenditures.

Angie Bird, the township's chief administrative officer, confirmed by email that council finished the Feb. 16 regular meeting having agreed on its tax levy increases for the year ahead.

Treasurer and deputy-clerk Tammy McKelvey provided council with a detailed draft budget for review and one by one, each department gave its forecasts.

"OPP (Ontario Provincial Police) alone was five per cent," Reeve Carol Moffatt posted to social media hours after council finished deliberations. It's 5.05 per cent to be exact, making their expenditure jump from \$677,428 and change to about \$40,000 shy of a million dollars.

Moffatt and councillors met at the table for most of the day Feb. 15, where they discussed things like the money budgeted for a new clerk position, ongoing construction at their North Shore Road office and the next steps regarding a septage lagoon expansion.

Bird ultimately verified the assessment growth will be 0.53 per cent and the levy increase sits at 2.18 per cent. When you add the OPP, that's a total levy increase of 7.7 per cent.

But what does that mean for a taxpayer?

Reported last week, the 2016 Census population and dwelling numbers stated that AH's population has increased by 7.5 per cent from 2,186 to 2,351. The township is growing and the budget is accounting for that.

Moffatt told the public that for every one per cent, residents should understand that's an approximate \$42,000 increase.

McKelvey verified by email that for every \$100,000 in residential property assessment, a residential taxpayer should expect an increase of \$21.62 annually and policing alone accounted for more than \$14 of that.

"This year's budget was a bit hard-won," Moffatt posted, adding it provides for what she calls a nice balance of projects and progress, and thanked staff and fellow council members for working through some challenging decisions.

A few of those challenges were the bigger spends they had set aside for this calendar year.

One of the largest sums discussed was the financing options for the desired implementation of a septic re-inspection program. Council decided it would allocate funding for consultant services and education this year and to "put boots on the ground in 2018", which helped the overall picture.

The construction and rehabilitation of the North Shore Road municipal office and its parking lots required an additional \$115,000 to be taken from reserves to finish the job, after the original contractor defaulted on the job last summer.

Council has also added funds for the installation of solar panels and a UV purification system at the new public works garage in Dorset. This is on top of a new well dug after water from the first well was unusable due to high sodium levels. Staff also discovered water at the community hall in Dorset had a high iron level, so a system will be added there as well.

Water seemed to be a point of contention, as Moffatt was also surprised to learn the municipal office building didn't have potable drinking water. So, council decided to budget money outside of its original number to pay for an additional UV system on top of the others already budgeted for.

In total, AH took \$185,000 from reserves for this year's budget.

The township is expected adopt the budget at its March 9 regular meeting.

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Highlander news

Work delayed on Horseshoe Lake Dam

By Lisa Gervais

Parks Canada says a prolonged and greater than average January thaw has caused delays for contractors working on the Horseshoe Lake Dam.

In a news release last week, they said the slowdown affected the building of a cofferdam to divert the Gull River around the construction site.

The remaining two sluiceways will be available to accommodate the increased flows that are experienced during the Spring melt.

Natalie Austin
Parks Canada

That cofferdam is now operational and sluices (gates) 1 and 2 have been demolished, spokeswoman Natalie Austin said.

"The water management strategy on the Gull River will not change. The remaining two sluiceways will be available to accommodate the increased flows that are experienced during the Spring melt," she added.

As a result, the closure of Horseshoe Lake Road (County Road 20) at the Bethel Road Bridge has been extended until early April. At that point, it will be opened to one lane of traffic with a traffic light. Both lanes will be open for traffic in early May. The road has been closed to accommodate staging for the project to replace the Horseshoe Lake Dam.

Pedestrian access is being maintained throughout the road closure.

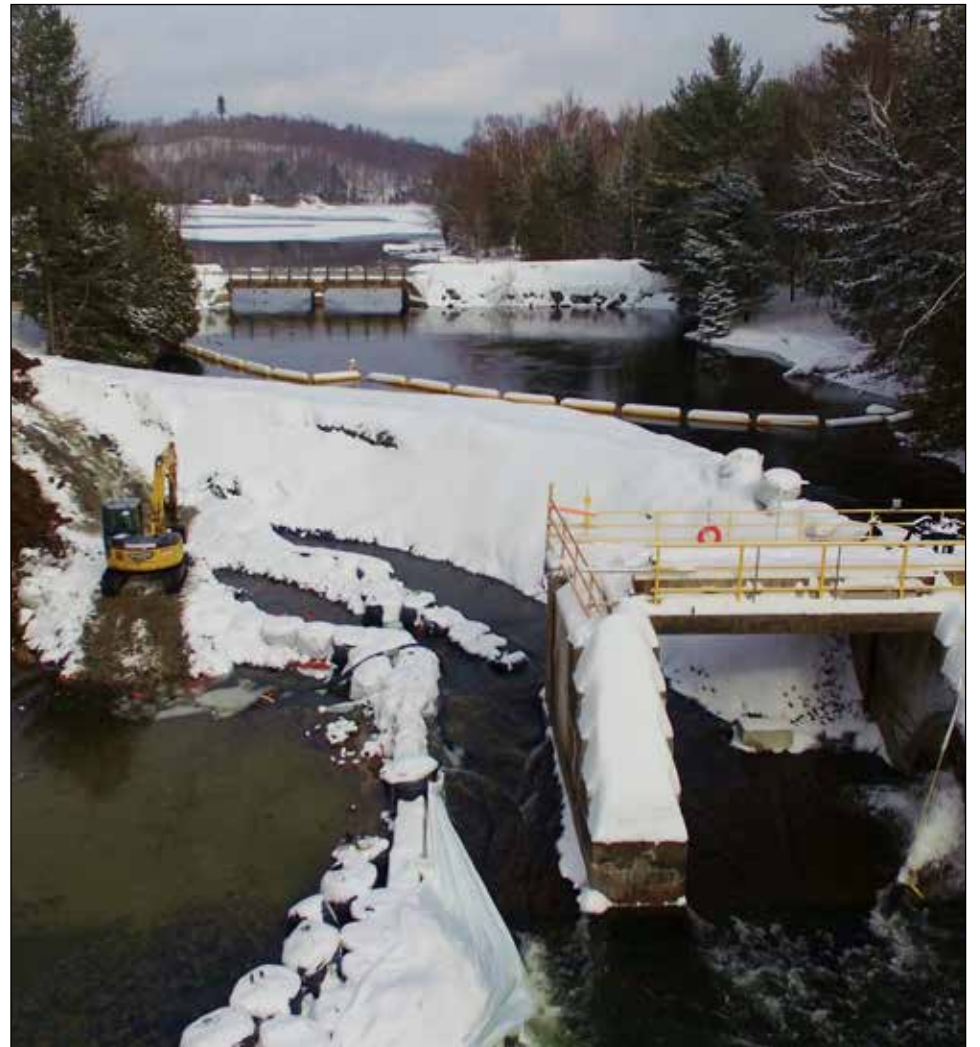
Residents are advised to avoid the area if possible and follow posted roadside detour signs.

Horseshoe Lake Dam, at the outlet of Horseshoe Lake, near Minden, was built in 1909. Work is underway to replace the dam in full, to meet modern design standards for performance and public safety.

The work is a part of the government's investment of more than \$600 million toward infrastructure on the Trent-Severn Waterway and its reservoir lakes. Aerial construction photos will be shared on Parks Canada's social media accounts: Twitter@trentsevernhs or Facebook/trentsevernhs.

For questions or concerns, or to receive email updates regarding this project, contact Ont.TrentSevern@pc.gc.ca and include "Horseshoe Lake Dam" in the subject heading.

For news about this or other infrastructure projects in the area, visit pc.gc.ca/tswHaliburton.



An aerial construction photo of work being done on Horseshoe Lake Dam. Submitted.

INFORMATION PAGE

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Highlander news

Land trust gets \$30K from Canada 150 fund

By Mark Arike

The Haliburton Highlands Land Trust (HHLT) will be able to launch three environmental projects because of a \$30,000 grant from the Canada 150 Fund.

“We are very excited to be creating and continuing partnerships in our community as we work towards preserving species and increasing biodiversity in our county,” said HHLT chair Mary Lou Gerstl.

These projects include the Bioblitz to be held in June at the Dahl Forest, construction of a pollinator garden in partnership with Abbey Gardens and restoration of the Gull River with the Township of Minden Hills.

The HHLT owns and provides stewardship to four ecologically significant properties in Haliburton

County, such as the 500-acre Dahl property near Gelert, said Gerstl. The Bioblitz, for example, will provide the organization valuable information about species that live there, “which will help us with our stewardship and conservation goals.”

This year marks Canada’s 150th anniversary. The 150 fund is intended “to create opportunities for Canadians to participate in local, regional, and national celebrations that contribute to building a sense of pride and attachment to Canada,” according to the government’s website.

Volunteers will be needed to assist with these projects. To get involved, call 705-457-3700 or visit haliburtonlandtrust.ca.

More information about these projects will be posted to the website.

We are very excited to be creating and continuing partnerships in our community as we work towards preserving species and increasing biodiversity in our county.

Mary Lou Gerstl
HHLT chair



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Bucket list

One of the dippers in Saturday's Polar Bear Challenge was Laura Richmond. Laura had a polar bear dip on her bucket list. The 65-year-old decided to take the plunge last weekend. After a run into Head Lake she threw her arms up into the air and proclaimed, "I did it." Photo by Lisa Gervais.

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Living well

Sparking Community Conversations

By Mark Arike

A new pilot project will encourage local seniors to connect, create art and hopefully share stories that have never been told before.

Fay Wilkinson, an expressive arts consultant and founder of the Visible Voices Open Arts Studio, has partnered with Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) to make "Community Conversations" a reality.

"It's sort of about feeling comfortable, feeling safe, learning something new and connecting with each other," said Wilkinson.

The idea for the four-week long project came about through a conversation between Wilkinson and Nancy Brownsberger, project lead for HHHS. Brownsberger said they were thinking of ways to expand the social recreation program.

"I was thinking of some sort of way to do something fun and different," she said.

Participants, who are 55 and older, will use various forms of multimedia to create panels for display in a multi-piece wall hanging. These will be installed in local galleries.

Volunteers will guide them through the process.

"We're looking at social recreation, getting people out, connection to community and connection to others."

The program starts April 5 at the Visible Voices studio, located off Industrial Park Road in Haliburton. Sessions will run on Wednesdays between 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

With her expertise, Wilkinson will train the volunteers at the end of March. Four people are needed.

There are some basic screening requirements, such as a criminal record check.

"We're hoping for a volunteer lead who could take on some of the facilitation piece," said Brownsberger.

Participants and volunteers don't have to be artistically inclined. All of the arts supplies will be provided free-of-charge at the studio.

The goal is to continue past the four-week period.



Fay Wilkinson displays a few of the art supplies in the Visible Voices Open Arts Studio. She will train volunteers for the Community Conversations pilot project. Photo by Mark Arike.

"Right now we'll pilot it for four weeks and see what the uptake is. From there, we'll determine what the next steps are. We'd like to run them concurrently, if we can."

Although she won't be there for all of the sessions, Wilkinson is honoured to be part of the project and is looking forward to what will come to the surface.

"For me personally, it's all about hearing the stories," she smiled.

Anyone interested in volunteering must contact Brigitte Gebauer at 705-457-1392 ext. 2927 or email bgebauer@hhhs.ca. To sign up as a participant, call Brownsberger at 705-457-2941 ext. 2922 or email nbrownsberger@hhhs.ca.

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PROVINCIAL PRE-BUDGET SUBMISSION

On February 16th, the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce, along with the Chamber Network across the province released the 2017 Pre-Budget Submission to the province. The Chamber Network is calling on the provincial government to commit to increased broadband infrastructure funding in this spring's provincial budget. By investing in fundamental infrastructure, the Ontario government will be ensuring that businesses' have the capacity to compete in a technology driven economy. We are calling on the government to show their commitment to fiscal stability by balancing the provincial budget by 2017-2018. This would result in a more attractive environment for business investment and growth as well as confront the challenge of mounting input costs, such as electricity prices. For more information and to read the full submission, go to www.haliburtonchamber.com.

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Where are they now?

HHSS alumnus Kristin Nicholson is advocating for change

By Jennifer Hughey

Kristin Nicholson learned early in life what her purpose is, and to her, it's simple.

"I felt so disheartened to learn about my privilege and other people's struggles ... I knew I was meant to devote my life to advocating for people," she told *The Highlander*.

The former Wilberforce resident now lives in Calgary and although only 26, she's accomplished much since graduating from Haliburton Highlands Secondary School (HHSS) in 2008.

Nicholson is a sexual assault worker and educator at the Calgary Communities Against Sexual Abuse (CCASA).

After graduating high school, she moved to North Bay to attend Nipissing University.

"I started majoring in psychology, with the intention of becoming an art therapist," she said. "My life took a bit of a turn second year when I realized that I didn't enjoy the science aspect of psychology, [but] I was fascinated by everything I was learning in my gender equality and social justice classes."

While in university, she took a course on applied activism, volunteering 90 hours in the community developing educational outreach programs and applying them. "I chose to work with children and utilize art for expression on reserves, north of North Bay," she said.

Nicholson reminisced about having the "most fantastic art teacher" in high school, Karen Gervais, whose support she said inspired her to chase her dream of art therapy.

Nicholson was then hired by the Aboriginal Initiatives Office at Nipissing University, where she worked during her last three years of school – co-ordinating educational programs with Aboriginal children. She graduated with a degree in gender equality and social justice with a minor in fine arts.

What does the average day for Nicholson look like now?

As CCASA is the primary sexual abuse and sexual assault crisis and education service provider for Calgary and surrounding areas, Nicholson "advocates for and supports clients who choose to report."

She provides crisis support, information, advocacy and referrals, training and educational workshops. She even speaks to children, youth and adults on topics related to sexual violence.

"In my positions, I have been a role model while providing the necessary resources and support each individual required," Nicholson said, adding people she helps have a positive influence on her.

Haley Scott is Nicholson's supervisor. She told *The Highlander* that Nicholson is a strong and supportive advocate for individuals who have experienced sexual violence.

Nicholson said the most important thing



Kristin Nicholson, a former Wilberforce resident now lives in Calgary and although only 26, she's accomplished much since graduating from Haliburton Highlands Secondary School (HHSS) in 2008. Photo submitted.

she can take away from her work is the importance of community, listening, and a willingness to incorporate new ideas and strategies.

Alberta has decided that by the end of 2017, it will be mandatory for all post-secondary institutions to have a sexual assault policy and to have started implementing it.

CCASA CEO Danielle Aubrey said Nicholson and other staff are involved in offering educational programming about sexual assault, its effects and how to respond in different ways on different campuses.

Aubrey said Nicholson brings a welcome energy to their team.

"[She] is very well-spoken with respect to how she sees the world," Aubrey said, "and how she analyzes the things that go on in terms of oppression and equality."

While rewarding, there are also very difficult aspects to what Nicholson does.

She said her team often witnesses the more violent cases, which shocked her at first and stirred up a lot of emotions.

"You never know who is going to walk in, what their experience has been, or how they

are reacting and coping," Nicholson said, adding it is difficult to prepare for.

Even after a year, she said she still feels nervous waiting to meet a client.

"I won't lie and say I go home, have a great sleep and receive satisfaction after every client I work with," she said. "Sometimes I feel really shaken up at the trauma one human being can cause another."

In her down time, she does things that remind her of home, crossing off her bucket list of summits, hikes and scrambles.

"I certainly miss the people that became my family growing up in Haliburton County," she said.

"But in order to influence institutions, such as post-secondary schools, this is where I need to be." Nicholson is working on her second undergraduate degree, a Bachelor of Social Work through distance education at the University of Manitoba, so she can become a registered social worker and move into counselling.

"Maybe one day I will end up back in Wilberforce, [but] until then, I will continue my summer visits on Grace Lake with my parents."

Highlander people

Vacant house in Minden to be rented

By Mark Arike

A house that has sat empty for some time in Minden will soon be occupied by a local family because of a partnership between two organizations.

On Tuesday, Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) announced it will be leasing a property it owns to Places for People (P4P) for five years.

"It's a win-win for both organizations," said Dave Bonham, chair of the HHHS board of directors.

It's a win-win for both organizations.

Dave Bonham
HHHS board chair

Located at 3 McPherson St., the property was purchased by HHHS two years ago for potential future expansion. It is only a few steps away from the Minden hospital and the Hyland Crest long-term care facility.

On it is a three-bedroom home, which is structurally sound but in need of some touch-ups.

"We'll be beautifying it," said P4P vice-president Fay Martin.

P4P is a non-profit organization that specializes in offering "secure affordable rental housing in Haliburton County." It has created three rental opportunities to date, with homes in Haliburton, Carnarvon and Minden. It also recently embarked on its first project in Highlands East.

In the past, P4P has purchased run-down properties and renovated them with the help of the community.

This home "is not geared to income, but it will be affordable," said Martin. P4P is leasing the property for a "nominal fee" and will be responsible for upkeep.

The monthly rent will be about \$1,000.

A family has not yet been selected, but when one is chosen they will be able to move in at the start of April.

"Affordable housing is one of the determinants of health and we are delighted to work with HHHS to provide affordable housing in this unique opportunity," said P4P president John Rogers.

By the year 2025, it is expected there will be a 50.5 per cent and 71.9 per cent increase in the local population that is above the age of 75, and 85 years, respectively, according to a release.

This jump means HHHS will eventually need to expand its services, and they will be "well-positioned" to do so because they own this property.

"Leasing the home to P4P in the interim provides HHHS the opportunity to plan for



HHHS chair Dave Bonham, top right, hands the keys for 3 McPherson Street to P4P treasurer Max Ward on Tuesday. Also joining them, from left, are secretary Shirley Moore; Peter Fearrey, HHHS director of facilities and projects, HHHS CEO Carolyn Plummer, Minden Reeve Brent Devolin and P4P vice-president Fay Martin. *Photo by Mark Arike.*

the future and determine the best use for the property," states the release.

Volunteers will be needed to get the

building ready. To find out how to get involved, visit placesforpeople.ca or call Rogers at 705-489-2835.



Grade 12 student Carmen Galea holds a couple of donated bags of pasta. *Photo by Mark Arike.*

Pasta challenge champs defend title

By Mark Arike

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School is defending its title in the 15th annual Great G7 Pasta Challenge.

While Grade 12 student Carmen Galea admits it would be nice to reclaim the pasta trophy, the real victory is being able to give to the community.

"We're trying to give back to the local food banks that give so much to everybody else," said Galea, the school's G7 council representative and student trustee.

The school began collecting pasta and money, which will be donated to the county's food banks, on Feb. 13. The drive continues until Feb. 27.

Donations of one regular box of pasta or Kraft Dinner is worth one point. Whole wheat or multi-grain pasta is worth two.

Schools from across the Trillium Lakelands District School Board participate. The winning school is determined by the most donations per capita.

The public can drop off donations at the office, anytime during regular school hours.

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Frost Festival was a family affair

Top: Jane Van Nood receives the ceremonial ambassador hat from former Frost Festival ambassador Steve Hill. Left: Elise and Marc Sengupta who have a cottage on Pine Lake enjoy breakfast in front of a fire. Above: Jen Woodward and Laurie White of Wanakita volunteer their time at the snowshoe station. *Photos by Lisa Gervais.*

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Highlander events



Above: Hannah and Kylea Dobson and Curtis Johnstone take the plunge. Right: James Lawr, the top individual fundraiser, takes the plunge with ease. Photos by Lisa Gervais.

Plunging for a purpose

Although an exact figure isn't yet known, Saturday's Polar Bear Challenge at Head Lake in Haliburton has raised more than \$4,000 for The Hospital for Sick Kids Toronto Music Therapy Program and Haliburton Highlands Health Services. Haliburton and District Lions Club director Jim Frost said there were 19 dippers. Prizes went to: James Lawr (top individual fundraiser); the Woodville Lions (top team fundraisers); Andrew Flowers (best individual costume) and Team Mills (best team costume). It was all part of the Frost Festival that took place Saturday in Head Lake Park. (Lisa Gervais)



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Back row: Tess Husbands, Abby Rosik, Liah Gallant, Gillian Rosik, Madison Allaire, front row: Hannah Gartshore, Jayde Rowden, Cheyenne Lagace, Ava Allaire and Madison Robinson. *Submitted.*

Minden Skating Club shines

The Minden Skating Club had 10 skaters compete at the Bracebridge Winter Whirl Skating Competition on Feb. 11.

The following are the results:

Tess Husbands; Star 1; Silver
Jayde Rowden; Star 2 Freeskate; Silver
Madison Robinson; Star 2 Freeskate; Silver
Cheyenne Lagace; Star 3 Freeskate; Silver
Hannah Gartshore; Star 3 Freeskate; Silver, Pre Intro Interpretive; Bronze

Ava Allaire; Star 3 Freeskate; Gold
Gillian Rosik; Star 3 Freeskate; Bronze
Liah Gallant; Star 4 (U13); 4th
Abby Rosik; Star 4 (U13); 1st
Madison Allaire; (Star 4 (O13); 4th
Ava Allaire/Hannah Gartshore; Star 3 Team Elements; Gold
Abby Rosik/Gillian Rosik/Liah Gallant; Star 4 Team Elements; 1st

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Monday March 6th 6-8 pm

Tuesday May 7th 1-4 pm

Wednesday May 8th 6-8 pm

Thursday May 9th 1-4 pm

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Highlander events



Above: Peyton Gamblen turns shy at the craft table with mom, Sabrina Gollop, of Minden. Right: Layla Marks came all the way from Orillia with her family to lend their support. *Photos by Lisa Gervais.*



AS fundraiser surpasses \$50k mark

Organizers of the fourth annual Catch the Cure event in Minden are still tallying up how much was raised on Saturday but Sue Tiffin said, “We know that the total (four years) has surpassed the \$50,000 mark.” She said the entire event was “amazing. We always strive for a positive, fun time, and we saw smiles and ice cream-covered faces everywhere. Many people approached us to tell us the event felt very loving, and the people who made the event happen in one way or another through volunteer services signed on for next year before they left.”

She said that in total there were 11 people with Angelman Syndrome (AS) there, from Renfrew, Toronto-area and Bracebridge, ranging in age from three to 28. She said friends from Pennsylvania drove up to surprise them at the last minute, with two of their three kids with AS. “Many families around the world celebrate International Angelman Day (IAD) (which was on Feb. 15) in some way or another, but there’s really nothing else like an entire town event that exists because of contributions from the community. Archie Stouffer Elementary School did a week-long awareness campaign with fun activities on IAD, the whole school went outside to make snow angels.” *(Lisa Gervais)*

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Highlander sports

COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING APPLICATION FOR MINOR VARIANCE

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Committee of Adjustment of the Township of Minden Hills will hold a Public Hearing on:

DATE: Monday, February 27, 2017
TIME: 9:30 a.m.
LOCATION: Municipal Council Chambers
 7 Milne Street, Minden, Ontario.

to consider minor variance applications **PLMV2016069**, **PLMV2017003**, and **PLMV2017007**. The purpose of the Public Hearing will be to consider the proposed Minor Variances to the Township of Minden Hills Zoning By-law pursuant to Section 45 of the Planning Act. The minor variance applications being considered are listed below:

PLMV2016069 (2nd Hearing) - Part of Lot 17, Concession 2, Geographic Township of Minden; municipally known as 1211 Loucks Lane; and located on Canning Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the reconstruction of the existing non-complying two storey Sleeping Cabin which is located at the High Water Mark with a larger and taller two storey Sleeping Cabin at the same location. The applicant seeks relief from the Zoning By-law to permit a 1 m. (3'4") increase in height allowing for a 5.55 m. (18'3") high accessory building whereas 4.5 m. is otherwise the maximum and no increase is permitted for a building within 15 m. of the High Water Mark; and, to permit an 18.3% increase (9.2 m² [98.6 sq.ft.]) to the existing 50.1 m² (539.6 sq.ft.) footprint whereas no increase would otherwise be permitted. As a result of the increased size, the Lot Coverage for accessory buildings and structures would amount to 5.7%, whereas 5% is otherwise required.



PLMV2017003 - Part of Lot 4 & 5, Concession 'A', Geographic Township of Minden; municipally known as 55 Parkside Street; (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit a demonstration farm as a permitted use. The proposed variance would facilitate a request to permit the raising of livestock for educational purposes which could consist of two (2) goats or one (1) heifer; one (1) pig; and, chickens at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre.



PLMV2017007 - Part of Lot 18, Concession 2, Geographic Township of Minden; municipally known as 1025 Canfield Lane; and located on Canning Lake (see key map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit a change in use of the existing, non-conforming, boathouse to that of a recreational room.



HAVE YOUR SAY: Input on the above noted applications is welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the public meeting or by making a written submission to the Township. If you do not attend the public meeting, it may proceed in your absence and, except as otherwise provided in The Planning Act, you will not be entitled to any further notice in the proceedings.

WRITTEN SUBMISSION: To provide input in writing, or to request written notice of the decision, please contact the undersigned or e-mail iclending@mindenhills.ca. If you do not make a written submission prior to a decision, nor make an oral submission at the Public Hearing, and subsequently submit an appeal of the decision, the Ontario Municipal Board may dismiss the appeal.

MORE INFORMATION: Additional information regarding these applications will be available for public inspection until noon on the day of the hearing at the Township of Minden Hills Building and Planning Department during normal office hours, and online at www.mindenhills.ca.

For more information about this matter contact iclending@mindenhills.ca.

Dated this 16th day of February, 2017.

Ian Clendening, MPI.

Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment

P.O. Box 359, 7 Milne Street, Minden ON., K0M 2K0

Heartbreak ending to Kawartha A basketball finals

Explosive first quarter offense not enough as seniors lose 65-56

By Alex Coop

A 32-point first quarter explosion threw the home crowd into a frenzy Feb. 16, but the Red Hawks' lack of rebounding and lacklustre offense in the second half resulted in a 65-56 loss against St. Thomas Aquinas, leaving fans shocked.

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School's (HHSS) basketball teams played in the Kawartha A finals last Friday, and while the juniors were looking to establish some consistency, the seniors were looking to defend their title.

We probably played our best first quarter of the year. But then defensively we fell apart.

Paul Longo

Senior team head coach

A year ago, the senior Red Hawks claimed the Kawartha West conference title against IE Weldon Secondary School. It was a first for the senior boys program, and a similar result was expected this year as the Red Hawks finished first in the regular season.

And for the first 12 minutes, there was little doubt HHSS was going to do it again.

Point guard Sam Longo led the way with 15 points in the first quarter, all of them coming from beyond the three-point arc.

Veteran McKay Coneybeare was not far behind with 12 points.

A smothering full-court press prevented

the St. Thomas Titans from even progressing past half-court.

The score after one quarter was 32-10.

Titans head coach Nick Beamish said their team was "completely overwhelmed" during the first quarter.

"They had the crowd into it and they ran that incredible press and we didn't know what to do with it," he said after the game. "But we settled down and got back into it."

The Titans locked down on defense, holding the Red Hawks to just six points in the second quarter and cutting the 22-point deficit to just 10 by halftime.

With only a few minutes left in the game, the slow comeback was complete and the Titans found themselves up by 10.

"It's a testament to this young team," Beamish said about his roster, made up of mostly Grade 11s.

Red Hawks head coach Paul Longo said he told his players that the Titans were going to respond with a run of their own after the first quarter, but despite the warning, they couldn't regain control of the game.

"We probably played our best first quarter of the year. But then defensively we fell apart," he said. "Give St. Thomas credit, they didn't back down or get down on themselves."

Longo pointed to some questionable calls early in the game that put Coneybeare and the team's defensive stopper Kyle Cooper into foul trouble. Cooper collected four fouls before halftime. Coneybeare had three.

Continued on page 21

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Highlander sports



But juniors score a win

Continued from page 21

“When you lose key guys like that early in a game, it changes the whole nature of the game,” Longo said.

“We have to learn how to deal with adversity ... the silver lining is that this was a seeding game, so we still get a second seed at COSSA and we have an opportunity to redeem ourselves.”

The junior Red Hawks played two games Friday. Their first against Brock High School resulted in a 48-22 win for the home team, led by forward Steven Dudgeon with 12 points, and a trip to the Kawartha A finals against Norwood District High School.

Led by guard Austin French, who scored 17 points, in addition to excellent team play that resulted in only nine turnovers for the game, the junior Red Hawks cruised to a 31-20 win.

Head coach Gordon Cochrane complimented his team’s poise and team play.

“They became disciplined,” he said after the game. “At the start of the season there was no discipline ... I’ve been telling them our offensive starts from the inside and works its way out, and during the past few games they started to realize that.”

Both HHSS teams are playing at COSSA today at Bay of Quinte Secondary School. The rain date is scheduled for Feb. 24.

Top left: Kyle Cooper soars in for a tough finish against St. Thomas during the third quarter. Bottom left: Caden Little works his defender in the post. Right: McKay Coneybeare goes in for an acrobatic finish near the rim during the finals against the St. Thomas Titans. Photos by Alex Coop.



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Highland Storm



The Storm's Aiden Neave makes a diving save against the Wasaga offense. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

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Cottage County Building Supplies/Ridgewood Ford Atoms

On Feb. 17, the Highland Storm atoms hosted the Wasaga Beach Stars for the fourth game of their playoff series. The Storm played hard but lost 10-6. This game knocked the atom team out of the playoffs and ended their season. Goals scored by Austin Boylan, Aiden Perrott, Addison Carr and Beckam Reynolds. Congratulations Storm, on quite the impressive year. The parents and coaches couldn't be more proud of what you accomplished this season. Way to go team! (Submitted by Amber Card)

Tom Prentice & Sons Tykes

On Friday, Feb. 16, the tyke team travelled straight from school to Huntsville to face off against the Otters. The team fought hard throughout the whole game.

Storm reports

They were down 2-0 going into the second but were able to gain momentum and score three goals of their own during the second period. Vanek Logan tallied two amazing goals and Leighton Nesbitt finished off the second period's scoring, on a goal assisted by Deagan Davison. The third period was a back-and-forth battle, with Logan scoring the last goal of the game for the Storm, which was assisted by Henry Neilson. When the final buzzer sounded, the Otters were on top, beating the Storm 7-4. The tykes will look to avenge their loss as they face the Otters again on March 5 in Minden. However, before then they'll be back at it on Saturday, Feb. 25 in Gravenhurst. (Submitted by Tamara Bain)

JoAnne Sharpley's Source For Sports/Haliburton Family Medical Centre Peewees

On Saturday, Feb. 18, the peewees headed to Penetanguishene to play in their first semifinal playoff

Continued on page 24

How much is your
home or cottage worth?
It depends who you ask.



Local League Weekly Schedule

Thursday, February 23

Team TD Canada Trust- Practice- Minden @ 5PM-6PM
Team Rotary- Practice- Haliburton @ 5PM-6PM
Team Pharmasave- Practice- Minden @ 6PM-7PM
Team Canadian Tire- Practice- Minden @ 7PM-8PM
Team Home Hardware- Practice- Haliburton @ 7:30PM-8:30PM
Team McKeck's- Practice- Minden @ 8PM-9PM

Saturday, February 25

Team TD vs. Bancroft Jets- Wilberforce @ 9AM
Initiation 2- Practice- Minden @ 9AM
Initiation 1- Practice- Minden @ 10AM
Team Mckecks vs. Team Home Hardware- Minden @ 11AM
Team Canadian Tire vs. Bancroft Jets- Wilberforce @ 11:30AM
Team Rotary vs. Team Pharmasave- Minden @ 12:30PM

Highlander Storm



Haliburton Timber Mart's 3-Stars of the Week



Stats	GP	G	A
	1	3	0

**Vanek Logan
TYKE**

The Highland Storm Tyke's took on the rival Huntsville Otters this past week, travelling to the Canadian Summit Centre to battle it out. Vanek had the hot hand for the Storm, recording an impressive three goals to give him the hat-trick. The tykes are back in action this Saturday, as they travel to Gravenhurst to take on the South Muskoka Bears.



Stats	GP	G	A
	1	3	2

**Addison Carr
ATOM**

Though the Highland Storm Atoms ultimately lost their series to the Wasaga Beach Stars, ending their run to the All-Ontario showdown, Addison's performance from the weekend is indicative of how the entire team played this season. Through sheer determination and will, Addison fought for every point he earned collecting five when all was said and done.



Stats	GP	G	A
	1	1	0

**Ty Mills
PEEWEE**

The Highland Storm Peewees were off to Penetanguishene to face the Penetang Flames in game one of their semi-final playoff series. Though the team didn't get off to the start they had hoped, the Storm can find solace in the fact that they finished the game strong, with Ty Mills scoring a nice goal, showing the Flames the offensive flare the Storm have had for the majority of the season. The Peewees look to avenge their game one loss this Friday, as they host the Flames in Haliburton. Puck drop is 7 p.m.

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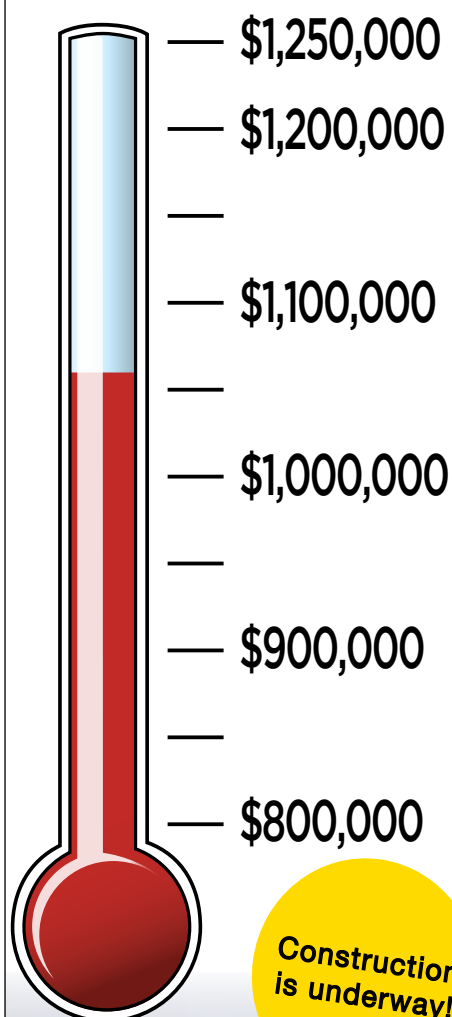
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Highland Storm



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HALBURTON HIGHLANDS
HEALTH SERVICES FOUNDATION

Continued from page 22

game versus the Penetang Flames. The first period saw both teams battle back and forth with Darian Maddock keeping his team in the game. The first period ended with no score. In the second period the Flames scored three to put them ahead 3-0 going into the third. After regrouping, the Storm came out in the third scoring early with a goal by Ty Mills assisted by Nick Phippen and Evan Armstrong. The Flames managed to score two more goals taking the game 5-1 and taking the series lead 1-0. Game two for the Storm is Friday, Feb. 24 at 7 p.m. in Haliburton. (Submitted by Ron Hall)

Storm reports continued



From left, Cooper Coles and Austin Boylan head up the ice against Wasaga Beach. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

Parkview Dental/ Canadian Tire Bantam Girls Jets

On Saturday, Feb. 11, the bantams travelled to Oakwood to face their rivals, the Lindsay Lynx in a playdown game. Both teams, determined to win, skated and worked hard throughout every period.

The end result was a 1-1 tie. The lone goal for the Jets was scored in the first period and was a beautiful end-to-end rush by Paige Billings which ended with her dumping the puck in the top left corner of the Lynx net unassisted. Courtney Semach had a stellar performance in the net for the Jets.

The team's next playoff series game was in Peterborough on Monday, Feb. 13 against the Peterborough Ice Kats. The girls secured the win 3-0, knocking out their opponents in the first round. Starting off the scoring in the first period for the Jets was Hannah McMann, assisted by Emma Neuman.

In the second, Billings added another, assisted by Beth Brownlee. The third period's final goal of the game was scored by Brownlee unassisted. Semach earned the shutout in net for the Jets. Saturday, Feb. 18 saw the team head to Brighton to face the Cold Creek Comets for a playdown game. Both teams played an evenly matched game displaying their skills and working hard throughout every period until the very end. The final result was a 1-1 tie. Neuman scored on

a rebound in the first period, assisted by Billings. Semach once again held her own, minding the net for the Jets.

On Sunday, the team hosted the Lindsay Lynx for another playdown game. Hoping to break the barrier from their previously tied game, the girls once again worked tirelessly to defeat their opponents. Both teams played a balanced and solid game, and despite the Jets drive and determination, the game once again ended in a 1-1 tie. Kendra Bandy pumped a single into the Lynx net, assisted by Billings. Semach maintained her composure and had an excellent game between the pipes for the Jets.

The team's next play down game will be on Sunday, Feb. 26 at the NHCC at 4:30 p.m. against the Ennismore Eagles. (Submitted by Linda Goulet)

The Bancroft I.D.A./ Red Eagle Family Campground Midget B girls

The midgets hosted the West Northumberland Wild on Saturday afternoon in Bancroft as they continued their provincial playdowns.

The Wild jumped out to an early first period 1-0 lead, but the Jets soon responded to tie the game when Jamie Little stuffed home a rebound off Kenndal Marsden's shot. Bancroft

continued to pressure the Wild and their efforts paid off as the first period wound down as Marsden slipped in a short-side wrister to give the Jets a 2-1 lead.

West Northumberland scored the only marker in the second period, tying the game at 2-2 midway through the second period. Katie Funk fired a bar down wrister (and eventual game winner) that rebounded off the back of the Wild tender to give Bancroft a 3-2 lead midway through the third period. The Wild pulled their goalie late in the third period looking to tie the game. Tori Shpikula and Jules Croskery's pressure deep in the Wild end forced a turnover that Funk capitalized on to add to the Jets' lead with her second tally of the game. West Northumberland pulled their tender again looking to claw back at the Bancroft lead. But as the game drew to a close, Marsden notched her second marker of the game with an empty netter from the Bancroft end after forcing a turnover at the blueline.

The Jets were on the road Wednesday, Feb. 22 in Lakefield at 8:30 p.m. and are then at home on Saturday, Feb. 25 at 2 p.m. to take on Cold Creek in a do-or-die matchup that could determine their chance into the All-Ontario Championships. Bancroft's last provincial playdown game is scheduled for Sunday, Feb 26 at 7:30 p.m. in Cobourg. The Jets will take on Keene in the second round of their LLFHL Finals. (Submitted by Dan Marsden)



Game of the Week
Saturday, February 25, 2017
Bantam Game of the Week
5:30PM @ A.J. LaRue Arena
vs. Bancroft Jets



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OBITUARIES



In Loving Memory of

Linda May Couling (nee Howe)

Passed away peacefully at home in Minden on Tuesday, February 14, 2017 surrounded by her family. At the age of 70.

Beloved wife of Barry. Dear mother of Lisa and her husband Claude of Sudbury, Susanne of Haliburton and Steve of Haliburton. Loving grandma of Thomas, Loretta, Dale, Danielle, Nicole, Caden and great grandma of Madison, Karley, Hailey, Kale and Cole. Dear sister of Joe, Shirley, Virginia and predeceased by Mary. Fondly remembered by her nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Friends are invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Road, P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0 on Friday, February 17, 2017 from 12:00 o'clock noon until the time of the Service to Celebrate Linda's Life at 1:00 pm. Reception to follow in the Monk-Cray Family Centre at the funeral home. Cremation has taken place.

Memorial Donations to the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated by the family.



www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com



In Loving Memory of

Alma Diezel

Alma Diezel died peacefully at home on February 19, 2017.

She leaves her son Glenn, daughter-in-law Jude, her beloved grandchildren Zeke (Jillian) and Grace, and family and friends both in Switzerland and Canada. Alma was born on February 7, 1924 in Switzerland. She spoke often of her happy childhood and the love she shared with her siblings Elsie, Erna, Enoch, Susanne, Arthur and their families.

She met her husband Alexander at the end of the war. After the death of their first Child Roy, they moved to Canada to start a new life. The friendships they formed on their journey by ship lasted their lifetimes. Alma's husband died in 1978. Heartbroken but strong in spirit she created a life for herself full of friends, gardening and painting. Alma spent the last 4 years living with Glenn and Jude enjoying nature and her cherished dog Maddie. She lived a full loved life.

Her family would like to thank all the PSW, nursing care and amazing family and friends who assisted in allowing Alma to die at home.

Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation - Palliative Care Centre (HHHSF-PCC) would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.



www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com



Giles Connelly

(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

Peacefully surrounded by his family on Thursday evening, February 16, 2017 in his 91st year. Beloved husband of Gladys Connelly (nee Smith). Loving father of Susan (William Sinclair) of Oshawa and Peter (Gail) of Barrie. Fondly remembered by his grandchildren Brian (Carol), Angela (Isaac), April (Chad), Shay (Kal), Lindsay (Geoff), Douglas and by his great grandchildren Storm, Felicity, Kaine, Colby,

Cassidy, Xavier, Keyaira and Remy. Dear brother of Norma Curran. Predeceased by his daughter Carolyn, his brothers Ivan, Melvin and sisters Grace, Wanda and Marion. Also fondly remembered by his many nieces and nephews. Giles owned and operated the Esso Fuel Oil Agency in Haliburton for many years. He was a member of the Haliburton United Church and belonged to the North Entrance Lodge, and the Rotary Club.

Memorial Service & Reception

Friends called at the HALIBURTON UNITED CHURCH on Sunday afternoon, February 19, 2017 for a Memorial Service at 2 o'clock. Reception followed in the Fellowship Hall. As expressions of sympathy, donations to the Haliburton United Church or HHHS Foundation would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.



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IN MEMORY

David Magee

June 8, 1942 - Feb 22, 2014

The years are quickly passing
Though still we can't forget
For in the hearts that love him
His memory lingers yet

Loved Always
Kathy & family



The family of the late Gunter Wolm

would like to thank our friends and community for the support through this difficult time.

We would also like to say a special thanks to Haliburton EMS Shawn Foster, and Wayne Redmon, OPP Sargeant Chris Henshall and Constable Kevin Cameron, The Algonquin Highlands Fire Department; Dr. Gilmour for his support, Dr. Bottom, and Dwayne Lloyd of the Haliburton Community Funeral Home; they all went above and beyond to help us.



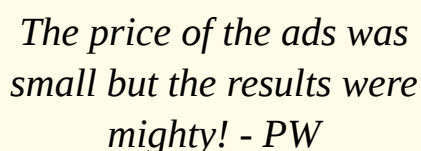
Mueller, Bill and Anna

Gone but always remembered
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE



6	4	9	5	3	1	7	8	2
2	7	8	6	4	9	5	3	1
1	3	5	7	8	2	6	9	4
5	1	7	8	2	3	4	6	9
8	9	6	4	1	5	2	7	3
3	2	4	9	7	6	1	5	8
9	5	2	1	6	8	3	4	7
7	8	1	3	5	4	9	2	6
4	6	3	2	9	7	8	1	5



Highlander classifieds

EVENTS

FLEMING COLLEGE Red Cross First Aid-Standard with CPR "C"
Fri & Sat Feb 24 & 25
Wed & Thurs March 2 & 3
Call 705-457-1680 to Register.

LUNCH FOR THE BEREAVED, an informal get-together for those who are experiencing bereavement. Light lunch, no registration required. Fridays 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Haliburton: 1st and 3rd Friday at SIRCH, 2 Victoria St. Minden: 2nd and 4th Friday at Minden Legion on Hwy 35. For more info: 705-457-2941 ext. 2932

Taoist Tai Chi
Missed our open houses? Come try a class any time. Check our website www.taoist.org or call Wilma 705-457-5829 for more info.

VON SMART exercise program for balance, strength, and flexibility. Minden on Wed. at 11 a.m. in the Hyland Crest Auditorium, and in Haliburton on Thurs. at 1 p.m. at Echo Hills. For more information contact Judy Webb at 705-286-5098 or Carol Browne at 705-457-4551. (TFN)

Every Monday Pickle Ball – Lloyd Watson Centre – 3:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Every Monday Pickleball at Haliburton High School, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Cost \$2, equipment supplied. Bring clean indoor running shoes.

EVERY TUESDAY. Royal Canadian Legion Branch 519, Coboconk Progressive euchre at 1:00 pm. Cost is \$2 per person

EVERY TUESDAY. Euchre at West Guilford Community Centre 7 p.m. For information, call 705-754-2464

HELP WANTED

HELP, we need somebody!

The Wine Store in Minden is looking for casual, part-time help (approx. 15-20 hrs) with a flexible schedule to allow you to work around your busy life. Resume required. Call Colleen at (705) 286-1642. minden-winestore@hotmail.com



We're looking for responsible, hard working, dedicated employees for general construction work. Must have own transportation to Haliburton. Full time (44 hours/week). Wages dependent on experience. Please send application to dbeachli@bellnet.ca.

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP open to anyone who has been diagnosed with or survived cancer. We meet the 3rd Tuesday of every month in the Ruth Parkes Room at the Haliburton Hospital from 1 – 3 p.m. Please contact Lynn Higgs Thompson 705-457-2941 for more information.

VON SMART exercise program for balance, strength and flexibility. Minden on Tuesdays at 11 a.m. in the Hyland Crest auditorium and in Haliburton on Thursdays at 1 p.m. at Echo Hills. For more info contact Judy Webb at 705-286-5098 or Carol Browne at 705-457-4551.

EVENTS

CHEW & CHAT FOR CHARITY...

at the Haliburton Highlands Food and Beverage Showcase...

Calling all food vendors and food-related businesses to participate in the **4th annual Haliburton Food Festival** at Wintergreen Maple on **Sat. June 17, 2017 11 a.m. To 4 p.m.**

To participate in showcasing your amazing local food establishment, call Diane Dawson 705-286-3202 for more information. Don't miss out on this opportunity to let people know who you are and what you do with amazing local food and beverage.

EVENTS

THOSE OTHER movies

MOVIE NIGHTS

THOSE OTHER movies

UPCOMING MOVIES

\$10 at the door Thursdays 4:15 7:15

March 9 Lion	April 13 Manchester By the Sea
May 11 Maudie	June 8 La La Land

Doc(k) Day April 8

705-286-3696 www.haliburton-movies.com
Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion

Volunteers Wanted!



Your Volunteer Community Radio Station

Is now recruiting on-air volunteers
Contact Janice at 705-457-1009
No experience required.

Listen live on the internet at www.canoe100.9.com

What's on



FEBRUARY & MARCH 2017 EVENT LISTINGS

Thursday February 23

Haliburton County Historical Society meeting, 12 noon at the Dominion Hotel in Minden. Guest speaker: Linda Kay, retired justice of the peace.

Friday February 24

Battle of the Bands, in support of Haliburton Junction Skate Park. A.J. LaRue Arena, Haliburton. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., show starts at 7 p.m. Tickets \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. To register your band contact amueller@dysartetal.ca

February 24-25 (Fri-Sat)

Bluegrass in the Highlands Winter Festival, at the Pinestone Resort. Weekend Pass \$75, Friday night \$35, All day Saturday \$45, Saturday night only \$35. Call 705-447-2348 or 705-457-3604, bluegrassinthehighlands@gmail.com

February 24-26 (Fri-Sun)

Art Lovers' STAYcation, Rails End Gallery. A three day series of workshops for arts-minded adults. Cost ranges from \$10-20 per workshop, or \$125 for the whole series. Railsendgallery.com

February 25 & 26 (Sat - Sun)

When "Hal" Freezes Over – Winter Multi-Sport Ultra Race – snowshoe, XCSki, Target Shooting & Hiking, 28, 56 or 102 km! Contact johndavidwaite@gmail.com for info/registration.

Saturday February 25

Kinmount WinterFest Free Family Snowflake Ball 6:30 – 9 p.m., Kinmount Community Centre.

Winter Workshop Series: Snowshoe & Wood-Fired Pizza Lunch!, at Abbey Gardens, \$25/person. abbeygardens.ca

Winter Workshop Series: Haliburton Highlands Brewing Workshop, at Abbey Gardens, \$25/person. abbeygardens.ca

Winter Workshop Series: County Coffee Roasting Workshop, at Abbey Gardens, abbeygardens.ca

Beekeeping Workshop, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. at Haliburton Highlands Museum. Pre-registration required. Call 705-457-2760.

Sunday February 26

Kinmount WinterFest – Free family fun! 8:30 a.m. Pancake Breakfast, Kinmount Community Centre. 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Join the fun at the Kinmount Arena & Fairgrounds. kinmount.ca

Razzamataz Kids' Shows presents "Sakara", at Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion, 2 p.m. \$10/adults, \$7/kids, under 2 Free!

Monday February 27

OSPCA National Cupcake Day at the Minden Animal Hospital. Join us Monday for cupcakes (dog treats, too!), and raise money for the OSPCA.

Tuesday February 28

St George's Anglican Church 78th Pancake Supper, at the Haliburton Legion, 5 – 7 p.m., free, but donations will be accepted, Gluten free pancakes also available. All are welcome.

Mike Ford in Concert, a bilingual concert presented by the Canadian Parents for French and the TLDSB. 6:30 p.m. at the Northern Lights Performing Arts theatre. Admission by donation. Contact Vanessa 705-286-2528 for advance tickets.

March 3-6

Winter Folk Camp 2017, at YMCA Camp Wanakita. 3 days and nights of musical community. For more info or to register, go to winterfolkcamp.net

Saturday March 4

Go Wild 4 Wildlife, Dinner & Concert to benefit the Woodlands Wildlife Sanctuary, featuring Carl Dixon and special guest Jeff Moulton. Pinestone Resort, 5:30 p.m. – 11 pm

March 4 – 5 (Sat/Sun)

Haliburton Highlands Dogsled Derby, at Pinestone Resort, haliburtondogsledderby.com

Friday March 10

Harcourt Chapel in Harcourt presents a free movie night, showing "Escape", at 7 p.m. Not recommended for kids under 12. Harcourtchapel.com

Saturday March 11 –

Sunday March 19
Maple Fest at the Haliburton Highlands Museum, haliburtonhighlandsmuseum.com/programs

Sunday March 12

Full Moon Series: Sound Bath Symphony, 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., at Abbey Garden, \$10/person



March 13, 15, 17

March Break at the Wolf Centre, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m., \$12/adults, \$7/Kids 7-17, family pass \$25, includes admission to Wolf Centre, art/craft supplies and an afternoon of activities. Haliburtonforest.com

Tuesday March 14

March Break at Abbey Gardens: Where the Wild Things Roam, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., for ages 6-11. \$25/day or \$60 for all three days. Abbeygardens.ca

Stanhope Soccer League Registration 705-766-9968, recreation@algonquinhighlands.ca

Wednesday March 15

March Break at Abbey Gardens: Kids in the Kitchen, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., for ages 6-11. \$25/day or \$60 for all three days. Abbeygardens.ca

Thursday March 16

March Break at Abbey Gardens: Outdoor Kids, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., for ages 6-11. \$25/day or \$60 for all three days. Abbeygardens.ca

Friday March 17

Canadian Blues Legends Series: Chuck Jackson and Tyler Yarema, Dominion Hotel, 8 p.m. Tickets \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. dominionhotelpub.ca

Saturday March 18

Deep Roots Adventure Workshop Series: Winter Survival deeprootsadventure.com/upcoming-events.

Reptiles Road Show! with Scales Nature Park, 10 a.m. – 12 noon, at Haliburton Fish Hatchery \$15/adults, \$10/child, haliburtonlandtrust.ca

Thursday March 23

Babysitter Training Course, 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. at Haliburton OEYC. 6 sessions, every Thursday from March 23rd to April 27th. Cost \$25/student. Must be 12 year old as of June 30, 2017. Space is limited, register at 705-306-9099 or haliburtonoeyc@gmail.com

Food Handler Course, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. at the Heath Unit office in Haliburton. \$40/person. 705-457-1391

Saturday March 25

Stanhope Soccer League Registration 705-766-9968, recreation@algonquinhighlands.ca

Winter Workshop Series: Snowshoe and Wood-fired Pizza Lunch, at Abbey Gardens, \$25/person. For more info or to register: abbeygardens.ca

Winter Workshop Series: Haliburton Highlands Brewing Workshop, at Abbey Gardens. For more info or to register: abbeygardens.ca

Winter Workshop Series: Into the Blue Bread Baking Workshop, at Abbey Gardens. For more info or to register: abbeygardens.ca

Gnome Man's Land Winter Obstacle Challenge, 8 hr race on 5 km loop. Winner is most loops, but come for fun and do as many (or few) as you like!

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION EVENTS

HALIBURTON BRANCH

Monday bridge 1p.m.
Tuesday dart league starting at 7 p.m.
Wednesday bid euchre 1 p.m. start, bingo doors open at 6 p.m, bingo starts at 7 p.m. - \$500 jackpot, \$1000 jackpot - last Wednesday of the month.
Thursday general meeting second Thursday of the month starting at 7:30 p.m. All members urged to attend. Ladies auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.
Friday meat draw - five draws, five prizes each draw, first draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw at 6:30 p.m., tickets \$2 per draw ... Chester Howse, MC.
Friday fun darts - 4:30 p.m. onwards
Saturday 50/50 4 p.m. draw, tickets \$1 each from noon onwards
Sunday breakfast second and fourth Sunday of the month – 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. \$6 per person. Occasional volunteers are needed.
Upcoming events: Live entertainment featuring The Highlands Trio Saturday March 11th 4-7 p.m. in the Club Room. Enjoy a delicious meal for only \$6 prepared by the Ladies Auxiliary, \$5 cover charge for non-members.
Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, for more information call the Legion today at (705) 457- 2571, email rcl129@bellnet.ca or visit haliburtonlegion.com Come on out and support Haliburton Legion Branch 129 ... everyone is welcome.

MINDEN BRANCH

General meeting, first Wednesday of each month, 7:30 p.m. start
Ladies darts, Wednesday, 1-4 p.m.
Euchre, Thursday, 7 p.m.
Fish/wings & chips, Friday, noon-2 p.m. and 5-7 p.m.
Mixed darts, Friday 7:30 p.m.
Bid euchre, first Sunday of the month (except holidays), noon, \$12
Sports fan day, Sunday, 12-5 p.m.
Lunch menu, Monday – Friday, noon-2 p.m.
Liver lovers' special, Tuesday noon-2 p.m. (full menu also)
Meat draws, Wednesday lunch time.
Watch for local posters and listen to Canoe FM, and Moose FM, for special events on Saturdays.

WILBERFORCE BRANCH

Friday Pool 1:30 p.m. Spaghetti dinner 5-7 p.m.
Jam session 7:30 p.m.
Saturday Meat draw 2 p.m., early bird 3 p.m. sharp
Monday Bid euchre 7 p.m. beginners welcome.
Wednesday Fun darts 7:30 p.m.
Upcoming Events: Saturday, Feb. 25 - Ken McFarlane Lake Trout Ice Fishing Derby - \$15/person, one fish entry, register at the branch before closing Feb. 24 or at the Wilberforce Bait Shop by 10 a.m. Feb. 25. Participants must be present to collect prizes.
Saturday, March 4, Branch 624 presents hypnotist Adam Graeme at the Lloyd Watson Centre. Doors open 6:30 p.m. for the 7-9 p.m. show. Tickets \$10, in advance at the branch or at the door. Non-alcoholic beverages will be sold.

Visit TheHighlander.ca for more events and activities
in the Haliburton Highlands



Featured Property

Kinmount - \$209,000

3 Bedroom/2 Bathroom
Storage Garage and Bunkie
Loads of upgrades - Just move in



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DON'T KEEP ME A SECRET!

What's on



Top: The winners of last year's Battle of the Bands. From left, Mackenzie Robinson, Alex Petrie and Jalen Campbell. Above left: A young duo performs at last year's Battle of the Bands. Above right: Whippz (Mark Arike) raps for the crowd at last year's event. *Photos by Tofflemire Photography.*

Round two for Battle of the Bands

By Mark Arike

Local talent will show off what they've got this Friday night at the second annual Battle of the Bands.

And all the funds raised will go toward the construction of a new and improved skate park in Haliburton.

"There's quite a variety of talent," said Andrea Mueller, recreation program coordinator for the Municipality of Dysart et al.

Last year's event, also held at A.J. LaRue Arena, raised about \$1,200. Eight acts, ranging from rock to rap, performed for people of all ages.

"Everyone seemed to have a good time," said Mueller, adding "it's a great way to show your support for local musicians."

Through various fundraisers and donations, about \$33,000 has been raised for the project so far. The goal is \$100,000.

The current park, dubbed Haliburton Junction Skate Park, is located beside the Dysart library. Its new home will be between the municipal office and the arena.

Construction is expected to begin mid-summer, said Mueller.

There won't be wrestling between acts like last year. Instead, skateboarding videos—one of which was produced locally—will be shown.

"It will be a debut for that," she said.

The first draft renderings of the new park will also be on display.

Similar to last year, the winner of the battle will be determined by audience applause. A variety of prizes from local businesses will be handed out, hopefully to the top three finalists.

"There are some decent prizes," she said, giving examples such as lift tickets from Sir Sam's and items from Algonquin Outfitters.

Although the event is all ages, one act will contain mature lyrical content in their performance. They will go last and the audience will be forewarned if they wish to leave.

Pizza and pop will be available for purchase. Junction skateboard decks will be sold in support of the cause.

The doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the show starts at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 each or \$12 at the door. The family rate is \$35 in advance or \$35 at the door. Children under eight are free.

Tickets are available at the municipal office, Head Lake Grill, Joanne Sharpley's Source for Sports, and Needful Things.

For more information, call Mueller at 705-457-1740 ext. 35 or email amueller@dysart.ca.

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